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same subject. The only new feature consists in those curious literary characteristics with which all readers of Dr. Walcker's numerous works are acquainted, and which have in part contributed to keeping him a mere *privat docent* for these many years. A great show of bibliographical erudition and a painful lack of broad and sane views are not sufficient to make a valuable book.

The thesis of Dr. Zeyss, on the other hand, is that of a young graduate who tries his hand at the philosophy of the subject. He discusses first Smith's general moral theory, then the idea of self-interest as found in the *Theory of Moral Sentiments*, and finally the theory of self-interest as expounded in the *Wealth of Nations*. Although the author evinces great familiarity with the literature of the subject, and successfully controverts many of the extremists, it cannot be said that he has materially added to the conception or criticism of Knies. The one good point that Zeyss makes is that there is no such chasm as has been generally believed between Smith's two works. Already in the *Theory of Moral Sentiments* the principle of self-interest is expounded, as limited by the ideas of justice; and in the *Wealth of Nations* this same principle is simply applied to the economic sphere. Dr. Zeyss finds fault with Smith's conception as being too optimistic, and as mechanical rather than organic. But the whole discussion will be more interesting to the philosopher than to the economist.

E. R. A. S.

*L'Occupation des territoires sans maître.* Par CH. SALOMON, docteur en droit. Paris, A. Giard, 1889. — 400 pp.

To the general reader the title of this book will not disclose either the scope or the main purpose of its contents. *L'acquisition des territoires* would more nearly have indicated what the author treats. In the first place, he undertakes to give an account of all the methods by which nations have enlarged their domains, and the assumptions of right or of power upon which they have proceeded. From this point of view, the title is too narrow. In the second place, the larger part of the book is devoted to the discussion of the question whether states commonly called civilized may rightfully seize and occupy territories inhabited by aboriginal peoples. To say that such regions are "*territoire sans maître*" appears to recognize the doctrine which the land-grabbing nations of the earth act upon, but which the author condemns. This, however, is the technical term under which we constantly find the subject treated in French books and periodicals.

The last four hundred years have witnessed various transformations of the theories upon which national cupidity of territorial extension has

sought to justify itself ; but there has been in this time little, if any, abatement in the intensity of the passion. In the days of Columbus, new fields of conquest were sought in the name of religion. Pious princes fostered expeditions of discovery in order that heathen peoples might be brought under the sway of Christianity, and the church in turn graciously allotted the territory so discovered to the princely promoters of the enterprise. The accounts of this devout era show, however, that the incidental discovery of gold and silver deposits was heard with some degree of interest and satisfaction ; and, indeed, not all the mineral wealth then contributed by the new world to the old was taken directly from the ground. The heathen parted with their hoarded treasure in its various forms, as well as with their territory and mines. At a later period, the expeditions of discovery were conducted for the avowed purpose of national aggrandizement.

The present age has seen the rise and progress of a new era in territorial acquisition. Less pious than the discoverers of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and less ready to avow their motives than the adventurers of the succeeding period, the territorial acquirers of the present day invoke the name of "civilization." As the possessors and dispensers of this blessing, they become the custodians of the uncivilized man and the owners of his land. That they disclose a decided commercial bias, and assert their principles in places where gold and silver and precious stones are to be found, is not to be set down against them ; for commerce and civilization go hand in hand, though with the former perhaps a little in the lead to point the way. But it cannot be denied that the contribution which civilization exacts from its beneficiaries is often in excess of what it gives them ; nor can it be maintained that its methods are always above suspicion. Sometimes it becomes involved in inconsistencies. If, in the exercise of forbearance, it treats with the aboriginal people in the first instance as independent and autonomous, the result is almost invariably the same. It is found that the natives do not observe the treaties ; that they exhibit a spirit of obstinacy in clinging to their ancient forms and customs ; that they do not regard with as much favor as they ought the efforts to enlighten them. Under these circumstances irritating differences are sure to arise, and the point of exasperation is soon reached. Whether the uncivilized man feels himself goaded to retaliation, or his civilized guardian deems it a duty to punish him for his contumacy, the result of the ensuing conflict is generally the complete triumph of civilization. In such case the new force takes measures to insure its supremacy, and this is generally accomplished by the effective method of annexation.

The present century has witnessed the rapid extinction of independent native communities. In the Pacific Ocean the work has been nearly

completed, Samoa and Hawaii remaining as almost the last abodes of aboriginal sovereignty. These, it may be said, have been preserved only through the intervention of the United States. All the rest are to-day under the sovereignty of European powers. The same situation is rapidly approaching in Africa.

That the result has been a gain to the material wealth of the world cannot be doubted. Whether, if the methods by which the result has been brought about were faithfully recounted, civilization would have cause for unmingled congratulation, is another question. To the native races, the approach of civilization has frequently meant not only the loss of liberty and property, but also corruption and enfeeblement, if not destruction. Instruction in religion and morality has been more than counteracted by the importation of vice and disease. Firearms and liquor have been staple considerations for the conveyance of land, and the passions of the natives have been fostered for the sake of their despoilment and subjection. Such has been the contribution of civilization to aboriginal peoples, and such is the story of *L'Occupation des territoires sans maître*.

JOHN BASSETT MOORE.

*History of the United States during the Administrations of Thomas Jefferson.* By HENRY ADAMS. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1889-90. — 4 volumes, 446, 456, 471, 500 pp.

It is rarely that an opportunity is offered for bestowing unlimited praise upon an historical work that covers eight years of a nation's life, crowded with incident, complicated with delicate entanglements of diplomatic relations and colored by partisan and factional temper. For the four volumes of Mr. Adams's history we have nothing but praise, whether we judge it from its style or from its matter. Mr. Adams's experience as college tutor, as editor of the old *North American Review*, as a biographer, and as a close student of American history, has brought him to the task just completed with faculties trained and specialized for performing it well. His style is clear and spirited, — concise almost to a fault, for at times it approaches baldness. His judgment is excellent; the thread of the narrative is never broken; there is no padding with digressions — no striving after effect; and he shows a complete mastery of his subject, — a mastery all the more noticeable from the absence of partisanship.

Jefferson is displayed in these volumes as he has never been displayed before, and yet only such material is used as is furnished by Jefferson himself. This in itself is an achievement of no small difficulty, for few writers — and Jefferson committed everything to paper — were so